

5 **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CREATING AND MANAGING
COMMON AND CUSTOM STORAGE DEVICES
IN A COMPUTER NETWORK**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 A method and system for creating and managing a plurality of storage devices in
a computer network. The present invention creates a common root storage device,
which stores files that are shared among several computers in the network, and a
custom root storage device, which store files specific to a single computer. The method
of the present invention includes creating common and custom root storage devices
15 within the network, recognizing these devices during startup (boot) of a network
computer and updating the common root storage devices as needed. In a preferred
embodiment, multiple common root storage devices are used so that an alternate
common root storage device may be updated while the primary common root storage
device is in use. The present invention also includes a system for creating and managing
20 storage devices on computers within the computer network using the aforementioned
methods.